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Pope calls on Lebanese to reconcile

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul urged the Lebanese people Saturday to work towards national reconciliation even if this did not automatically settle the country's external problems. He expressed hope that talks between the Lebanese and Israeli governments about the withdrawal of Israeli troops would not ignore the fate of Palestinian families "which are also sorely tried." During an audience for Nasri Salhab, Lebanon's new ambassador to the Holy See, the Pope said that, in a world equipped with terrible destructive capacity, dialogue was the only responsible policy.

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Boucetta, Cambridge discuss Arab mission to London

RABAT (R) — Moroccan Foreign Minister Muhammad Boucetta conferred in Rabat Saturday with British Ambassador John Cambridge on a visit to London by an Arab League mission. The Moroccan News Agency MAP said: The agency said the seven-member mission led by King Hassan of Morocco was due in London "in the next few days." Diplomatic sources said dates at the end of January and in early February had been proposed by London. The mission postponed a visit to London last November when Britain refused to meet a PLO member in the delegation. The mission was set up last September to canvass support among the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council for an Arab League Middle East peace plan. It has already visited Washington, Paris, Moscow and Peking. Mr. Boucetta also received Abu Marwan, the chief PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) representative in Morocco, to discuss Middle East developments, the agency said.

Poles seek emigration to West

WARSAW (R) — More than 1,000 of the men and women who were interned under martial law in Poland have since applied to emigrate to the West, the Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu said. It said 1,228 former internees were among 4,166 people officially registered as applying to leave from March to December last year. Passports had been issued to 500 of those registered but only 144 had so far received visas from Western countries, it said. The authorities said early last year that released internees would be allowed to leave the country if they wished. Western embassies say they have been inundated with visa requests and some have brought in extra staff to handle the flow.

U.N. steps in to help Kurdish refugees

ROME (R) — The United Nations Saturday stepped in to help 26 Iraqi Kurds who have been shuttled between international airports for more than two weeks, officials at Rome's Fiumicino Airport said. The U.N. high commissioner for refugees is assuming responsibility for the Kurds and the Italian branch of the Catholic Charity, Caritas, will house them in Rome pending resettlement. The refugees, who say they fled Iraq because of ethnic persecution, were about to be sent back to Iran when the Italian Interior Ministry said they could temporarily enter Italy under United Nations auspices.

Italy's union federations call for strikes

ROME (R) — Italy's big three union federations, caught by surprise by a wave of spontaneous demonstrations against government austerity measures, Saturday called a series of regional strikes for next week to maintain the momentum of popular protest.

Danish captain fined for breaking British fishing law

NORTH SHELDS, England (R) — A Danish trawler captain who was fined for breaking new British fishing rules has vowed he will prove the regulations illegal and have the judgment overturned. Kent Kirk, a fisherman's leader in Denmark, and a member of the European parliament, paid up promptly Friday when he was fined 30,000 sterling (\$48,000) for a deliberate intrusion into newly-restricted British herring grounds. Britain and other Common Market countries imposed new restrictions because Denmark, in a bid to win itself a better deal, blocked a plan for regulating fishing in the whole community. Both Mr Kirk and the Danish government believe the rules are illegal.

Politicians seek urgent end to Tripoli fighting

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese politicians tried urgently Saturday to halt fighting between pro- and anti-Syrian factions in the northern port of Tripoli where hundreds of people have been killed or wounded during the past month.

As talks were held in Tripoli and Damascus, Lebanese radio stations reported further intermittent clashes Saturday in the city of 600,000 people. Universities, schools and banks remained closed there, state-run Beirut Radio said.

Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan flew to Damascus to see Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, and in Tripoli itself former Premier Rashid Karami, a native of the city, conferred with leaders of anti-Syrian factions. The fighting, which has occurred at intervals over the past 18 months, involves the Syrian-backed Arab Democratic Party against a loose coalition of anti-Syrian groups, including pro-Iraqi and Islamic factions.

The usually well-informed Beirut daily newspaper An Nahar reported Saturday from Tripoli that 168 people had been killed and 587 wounded since the latest bout of fighting began a month ago.

Mr. Wazzan made clear in a newspaper interview published here Saturday that he held Syrian peacekeeping forces responsible for security in Tripoli.

He told the daily Al Bayraq he was going to Damascus to define this responsibility and to remove obstacles for a restoration of peace in Tripoli.

The all-Syrian Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) has been deployed in and around Tripoli since it entered Lebanon in 1976 to end a civil war here. The anti-Syrians have charged that ADF artillery is shelling them from hills near the city.

In Tripoli, Mr. Karami and another former premier from the city, Amin Al Hafez, met representatives of four anti-Syrian groupings, state radio said.

A spokesman said the meeting had agreed on an immediate ceasefire, withdrawal of all armed men "especially foreigners," removal of heavy arms from the city and the entrusting of security duties to the Lebanese authorities.

A previous Karami plan proposed the division of security duties

between the government's paramilitary Internal Security Forces (ISF) and a joint militia force. But this was rejected by the anti-Syrians, who demanded deployment of the army.

The leftist Beirut daily As Safir reported Saturday that the anti-Syrians were coming round to a compromise on the ISF taking over the city rather than the army. While Mr. Karami maintains close links with Syria and its supporters in Tripoli, no pro-Syrian representatives were at Saturday's meeting, and their reaction was not immediately known.

Several previous ceasefire announcements have had only limited effect on the fighting.

Several hours after Saturday's reported agreement, state radio said shooting could still be heard in the city despite the despatch of committees there to try to implement a ceasefire.

UNIFIL mandate

Lebanon is seeking a six-month renewal of the mandate of United Nations Peacekeeping Forces in southern Lebanon and a future expansion of their role and area of deployment, U.N. sources said Saturday.

President Amin Gemayel made the request Friday night to visiting U.N. Under Secretary-General Brian Urquhart. The current mandate of the 7,000-man U.N. Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), formed in 1978, expires on Jan. 19.

2 French ministers on Gulf visits

BAHRAIN (R) — Two senior French ministers were engaged in separate visits to the Gulf Saturday as part of France's stepped-up efforts for closer ties with the oil-rich region, also a big market for Western weapons and consumer goods.

In Muscat, French Defence Minister Charles Hernu arrived for two days of talks on Oman's role in the defence of the Straits of

Hormuz, the gateway to the Gulf oilfields.

A French embassy spokesman in Muscat said the question of arms sales was likely to come up in Mr. Hernu's discussions with Oman's deputy prime minister in charge of defence, Fahr Ibn Tahir Al Said. Mr. Hernu is the first French defence minister to visit Oman.

France is the world's third largest arms exporter after the United States and the Soviet Union.

In Bahrain, French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson discussed bilateral relations, the Iraq-Iran war and the Middle East problem with Bahraini leaders.

He flies to Qatar Sunday.

W.German election campaigns begin

BONN (R) — Full-scale campaigning began Saturday for West Germany's general elections on March 6 with unemployment and U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles emerging as the main issues. The campaigns got into swing after three weeks of preliminary skirmishing which started when Chancellor Helmut Kohl deliberately lost a parliamentary no-confidence vote.

The election date was fixed Friday by President Karl Carstens who dissolved parliament despite what he called misgivings about the no-confidence vote procedure.

Mr. Kohl, who pledged spring elections when he took power in October, called the vote to overcome a constitutional bar preventing parliament from dissolving itself.

A private-lawyer Friday laid objections before the constitutional court which meets on Tuesday but legal experts say the objection is unlikely to prevent or delay the poll.

The Christian Democrats (CDU), Mr. Kohl's party, made it clear Saturday they would lay the blame for West Germany's growing unemployment rate on the left-liberal government of former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Mr. Schmidt's government fell when the small liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) quit his Social Democrats (SPD) and formed a new coalition with the conservatives.

CDU General Secretary and Health Minister Heiner Geissler branded the SPD as "the party of unemployment, bankruptcy and state debts."

Unemployment in West Germany rose by half a million last year to reach 2.2 million in December—9.1 per cent of the workforce—and is expected to hit the 2.5 million mark before the end of this winter.

Conservatives have said they believe the electorate is sophisticated enough to realise that the centre-right coalition has not had enough time to make inroads on a rising unemployment rate left by the previous government.

SPD executive member Wolfgang Roth responded by accusing the government of doing nothing about unemployment and leaving market forces to deal with the problem.

If unemployment is undoubtedly the issue which most worries the average voter, the prospect of medium-range U.S. nuclear missiles being deployed in West Germany later this year is a close second.

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 80 people suspected of being affected with diphtheria have been admitted to Al Bashir Hospital and one case at Al Bashir Hospital with an additional nine suspected cases still under observation.

Out of this number, he said, eight proven cases are being treated at the University of Jordan Hospital and one case at Al Bashir Hospital with an additional nine suspected cases still under observation.

So far only three people have died, including a 10-year-old boy who died at Al Bashir Hospital Friday, Dr. Qub'ain said.

As to the measures taken by the ministry to deal with the situation, Dr. Qub'ain said that all suspected cases are admitted immediately to hospital for treatment where they are placed under strict medical surveillance and their contacts like schoolmates and close relatives are inoculated against the disease.

He said there is no need for worry or concern provided all children get their anti-diphtheria vaccination on time and in accordance with Health Ministry regulations. However, he said, people are advised to avoid crowded places and to call on a doctor in case of high fever or sore throats.

The Health Ministry has recently invited a specialist in diphtheria cases from the World Health Organisation for consultations and has distributed vaccines to all its medical centres around the country to help stem the spreading of diphtheria, Dr. Qub'ain said.

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'PLO must resume armed struggle'

VIENNA (R) — A leading member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Saturday the PLO must resume its armed struggle to oppose what he called "Israeli military aggression." Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi, chairman of the political department of the PLO, who is visiting Bulgaria, told a press conference in Sofia that the ousting of the PLO from Beirut had not altered its basic policy of establishing an independent Palestinian state, the official Bulgarian News Agency BTA reported. On Friday PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told a large rally in Damascus the PLO would continue its armed struggle until an independent Palestinian state was established.

King briefs officers on outcome of his visit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein chaired a meeting at the army headquarters Saturday afternoon to brief the senior officers on the outcome of his visits to China, the Soviet Union and France at the head of an Arab League seven-member committee to explain the Fez summit peace plan.

The King also spoke about the talks he held in Washington with President Reagan and other senior U.S. officials on peace efforts and Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

Attending the meeting were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb, the directors of public security, civil defence and general intelligence services.

At an earlier meeting at the army headquarters King Hussein passed several directives of concern to the Jordanian Armed Forces.

JTV interviews Israeli POWs

AMMAN (J.T.V.) — Jordan Television Saturday broadcast an interview with Israeli prisoners of war detained by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces in Lebanon.

JTV Hebrew broadcast Haroun Mahmid recently, visited the Israeli prisoners and spent several days with them.

Mr. Mahmid recorded the interview for the JTV.

In Saturday's programme, on the Israeli war prisoners said that he and his colleagues were treated well by the Palestinian forces.

He also criticised policies of the Begin government, and encouraged recent negotiations about the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

The prisoners who appeared in the interview appeared in good health and sent their greetings to their families.

JTV will broadcast the rest of the interviews with the Israeli war prisoners during the coming days. Meanwhile, Palestinian sources said that the PLO will agree to free the Israeli soldiers only if the Israelis free all the Palestinian detainees at all Anssar Camp in Lebanon and all other Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails who are sentenced to 15 years or more.

The source said that the free Palestinians should have the choice to either stay in the occupied territories or leave after they are released.

Howe in Riyadh to seek Saudi loans to IMF

BAHRAIN (R) — Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived in Saudi Arabia Saturday, stressing quick action to find ways to support the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

Sir Geoffrey is in Saudi Arabia in his capacity as chairman of the IMF's key 22-member interim committee. He is accompanied by IMF Managing Director Jacques De Larosiere.

According to monetary sources in Washington, Sir Geoffrey will seek four to five billion dollars in Saudi loans to shore up the IMF's dwindling resources and enable the agency to help poorer countries with their balance of payments problems.

Saudi Arabia has already advanced about eight billion dollars in loans to the IMF and it is not certain it will be willing to provide more, the sources said.

Saudi Finance Minister Mohammad Abal-Khalil, who met Sir Geoffrey on arrival, said the

visit was part of consultation ahead of the interim committee meeting expected to be held in Washington next March.

The talks in Riyadh would be in the context of the kingdom's membership of the IMF and being one of the permanent members of the fund, Sheikh Mohammad to the agency.

Informed sources in London do not expect the recent tension between Britain and Saudi Arabia to be raised during Sir Geoffrey's visit. British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym had to cancel planned visit to Riyadh this month when he was told he would not be welcome, in view of Britain's rebuff to a visit to London by an Arab League mission that was have included a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Saudi Arabia, a strong supporter of the PLO, has in the past pressed for observer status for the PLO in the IMF, but met United States opposition.

Calm prevails in Corsica after week-long turmoil

AJACCIO, Corsica (R) — Corsica was calm Saturday after a week of political turmoil as guerrillas seeking the island's independence from France drastically reduced the level of violence.

Informed sources said the Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) was reconsidering its strategy after being outlasted by the government and suffering a wave of condemnation by ordinary Corsicans.

Police said the only incident in the past 24 hours was the destruction by a bomb of a small yacht in the northern port of Calvi during the night.

More than 200 people demonstrated Saturday at Petreto-

Bicchisano near Ajaccio against the FLNC bombing campaign in the second large-scale public repudiation of the guerrillas this week.

The sources said the sudden fall in the number of attacks by the FLNC, which carried out almost 700 bombings last year, was partly due to intensified police activity against them.

Nationalist sources indicated also that a split had emerged in the FLNC between militants who wanted to continue the campaign of violence and moderates favouring increased emphasis on political action.

Nationalists are angry that Corsican criminals have exploited the

separatist campaign and helped blacken it in the eyes of the public by using intimidation and violence on their own account in the FLNC's name.

"People receiving extortion demands often have no way of knowing whether they come genuinely from the FLNC or from ordinary criminals," a police source said.

The demonstration at Petreto-Bicchisano was called in support of local chemist Thierry Cazon whose shop was bombed last week for the third time when he refused to pay an extortion demand.

The guerrillas do not deny making financial demands on rich Cor-

sicans and on French families whom they are trying to force out of Corsica.

Informed sources said militant members of the FLNC were exerting pressure within the organisation for a renewed campaign of violence in mainland France as part of the next phase of FLNC activity.

Attacks in France stopped during a truce the FLNC observed for a period after President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist government came to power in May 1981.

The sources added that although the violence had been scaled down after a surge in the number of bombings at the end of 1982, the systematic intimidation

of French settlers in Corsica was continuing.

"People are still getting telephone calls at night warning them to leave the island for good," they said.

Police Commissioner Robert Broussard, former head of the anti-gang brigade in Paris, is due to arrive in Ajaccio early next week to take over command of the police in Corsica.

He was appointed by President Mitterrand on Wednesday as part of a crackdown on the guerrillas by the government which has temporarily abandoned efforts to conciliate militant nationalists in Corsica.

HOME NEWS

Arab host countries discuss status of Palestinian refugees

By Affiah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The status of Palestinian people in the Arab World, travel, residence, work and travel documents were the major issues discussed Saturday by delegates of Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees.

Delegates representing Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Arab League gathered here for the 30th session of the conference of Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees to review the conditions of host Arab countries and the services offered to them by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA). Delegates at the seven-day conference, which opened last Tuesday, received during Saturday's session a telegram from the UNRWA. Teachers Association in Lebanon saying that teachers as employees of the agency are threatened with dismissals if they do not resume work ignoring

taken in the emergency meeting of the UNRWA's consultative committee to be held in Vienna at a date still to be decided on.

Representatives from Belgium, France, Japan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States will participate in the Vienna meeting.

The conference also reviewed recommendations by the United Nations General Assembly in its last session on the Palestinian issue.

Delegates noted that all recommendations related to the Palestinian issue and affairs whether in the occupied territories or looked after by the UNRWA are always rejected by the U.S.

The delegates condemned the American stand on such issues and recommended that future cooperation among Arab countries as well as among U.N. member states will be based on their stands towards the Palestinian issue.

The conference is expected to conclude its meetings Sunday and recommended that its next session will be held next July at the Arab League General Secretariat headquarters in Tunis.

The proposed committee should include representatives of Lebanese government, the PLO and the UNRWA, the conference suggested.

During the meeting it was agreed that a united Arab stand regarding refugees' issues will be

literacy brought down to 30% in 21 years

AMMAN (Petra) — The minister of education, and head of the Jordanian Committee for Adult Education and Eradication of Illiteracy, Dr. Sa'id Al Tal said today the percentage of illiteracy in Jordan has fallen from 67 per cent in 1961 to 30 per cent in 1982.

Marking the Illiteracy Eradication Day, Mr. Tal said in a statement on the occasion that plan was among the first

developing countries that made an early beginning at setting up a nine-year compulsory education system, aimed at "filtering the very origin of illiteracy by educating all youngsters."

The Ministry of Education, Dr. Tal said, offers every possible support for opening adult-education classes to the extent of holding classes with qualified teachers and books to any number of citizens above the age of 15.

Jan. 8 was decided upon by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) as the Illiteracy Eradication Day. The ALECSO has also set up an Arab fund for the eradication of illiteracy in the Arab World aimed at providing assistance for Arab member-states' programmes in the field, and organising new adult-education programmes, in addition to training specialists and staff personnel for the purpose.

Delegations to attend meeting of Union of Arab Universities

AMMAN (J.T.) — Delegations representing two Jordanian universities have left for Khartoum to take part in Union of Arab Universities (UAC) meeting scheduled to open Sunday. The delegation representing the University of Jordan is headed by Vice-President Mahmoud Al Samra and Bethlehem University is represented by its president, Dr. Michael Sabbah. During the four-day meeting the delegations will discuss a number of subjects connected with bolstering scientific and educational cooperation among Arab universities and ways of boosting scientific research along with topics pertaining to the union's administrative and financial affairs.

Central Bank asks exchangers to follow strict regulations

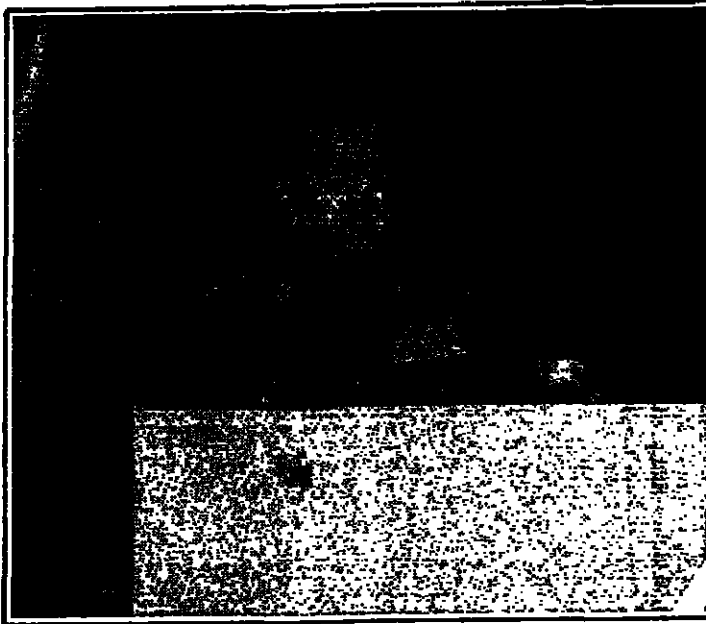
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank has asked all moneychangers in Jordan to abide strictly by regulations issued by the bank regarding foreign exchange transactions. A circular distributed to the moneychangers said that they have to keep daily lists of exchange rates all currencies they deal with and place them in prominent places for the public to see clearly. The moneychangers were asked also to keep records of all transactions and all deposits of foreign currency they have and their corresponding value in Jordanian currency as well as accounts books which should contain accurate figures that can be referred to in legal procedures.

Mining company prospects for phosphates in northern Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) Director-General Ali Nsour formed Saturday a special committee to conduct a survey on two sites between Dair Abi Sa'id and Wadi Sammur in the northern part of the country where phosphates deposits were reported to have been spotted.

The University of Jordan had informed the JPMC of the presence of phosphates in the region and according to the company's Deputy Technical Director Ishaq Al Jallad the JPMC and the university will continue to cooperate in the field of developing Jordan's natural resources.

He said a six-member university team had reported the find during its visit to conduct scientific studies in the region towards the end of the last year.



Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Saturday addresses a gathering at the Royal Command and Staff Academy at the occasion of opening a new training course for army officers (Petra photo)

Meeting reviews national plan for public safety

AMMAN (Petra) — Provincial governors met at the Ministry of Interior Saturday to discuss a comprehensive public safety plan at the national level.

The meeting was chaired by Interior Minister Ahmad Obeidat, who said that the proposed plan defines the basic elements of public safety issues and suggests solutions.

The plan, he said, calls for defining priorities of projects to be implemented and defines the tasks and responsibilities of supervising government services which implement such projects, and calls for coordination among various public safety committees and provincial governors.

According to the minister, the

plan provides for creating an atmosphere of cooperation and interaction between the public and public safety committees in various governorates.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Obeidat said that district governors are expected to submit their proposals and recommendations within a week to the Ministry of Interior on the proposed plan and ways of its implementation.

The meeting also reviewed steps and measures taken in the past week to deal with the effects of weather conditions. They studied ways of improving methods to handle similar situations.

Minister stresses need to improve conditions of teachers, more schools

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal said here Saturday that the Ministry of Education is concerned over two basic issues, namely to improve the living and social conditions of teachers and to solve the problem of school buildings shortage in the country.

The minister, who was speaking at a ceremony to mark the inauguration of a new Education Department building in Irbid, stressed the importance of decentralisation in the educational process. The director of education in a governorate is regarded the highest educational authority who enjoys as much power in his region as that of the minister, Dr. Tal

said. He said that the Ministry of Education is the central authority merely in drawing up plans and charting educational policies and supervising their implementation. Speaking at the ceremony also was Irbid Governorate Director of Education Mohammad Al Halal-shah who said that the new JD 200,000 building opened Saturday will cater for all administrative and technical educational expansion.

Dr. Tal later inspected different sections of the department and visited the Irbid Comprehensive School for Girls where he chaired a meeting of educational supervisors in Irbid Governorate to discuss educational activity.

Sharif Zaid opens training course for officers

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker opened Saturday a new training course for army officers at the Royal Command and Staff Academy in Amman.

In a speech to the participants who included a number of army officers from other Arab countries, Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid spoke about Israel's expansionist policies and the need for serious efforts for cooperation among Arab states armed forces for confronting them. He called for a mobilisation of Arab resources to "enable the nation to recover its usurped territory and liberate its people now under Zionist occupation."

Sharif Zaid said: "In opening a similar training course last year I remember warning of Israel's continued aggression, and expansionist policies in the Arab World. The Israelis are no doubt aided in their adventures by their military superiority and helped in their plans by continued divisions among Arab ranks."

"Today I again remind of the looming danger and refer to that danger that manifested itself in the invasion of Lebanon and the massacres Israel committed there."

The academy commander, who also delivered a speech on the occasion, said that the new course includes 29 officers from other Arab countries, the biggest number thus far.

Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb and other senior army officers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russeifa to have public building complex

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) approved Saturday a tender for constructing a government departments complex at Russeifa at a cost of JD 388,618. Work on the project, which will be financed by Russeifa Municipality, is expected to start after signing a contract with a local firm. The municipality is obtaining a loan from the CVDB to build the complex.

Union team to convey condolences to Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian labour delegation left for Baghdad Saturday to convey condolences to labour union leaders on the death of the Iraqi union's leader, Khalil Abu Khurmah, and the labour union's president in Basra. Both unionists died in a road accident on Thursday. The Jordanian delegation is led by the vice president of the General Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, Mohammad Al Sayyed.

European Parliament official expected

AMMAN (Petra) — The chairman of the political affairs committee of the European Parliament is due here Jan. 15 for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days. He is expected to hold talks with Jordanian officials on Middle East developments.

Madaba to plant saplings on Arbor Day

MADABA (Petra) — The agricultural department here says a total of 4,000 forest saplings are now available for planting by members of the public on Jan. 15, the national Arbor Day. According to department, the area to be planted is nearly 200 dunums in Madaba and the surrounding area. In addition it said, 11,475 saplings will be planted in pasture lands in Madaba District during the current agricultural season.

University of Jordan examinations begin

AMMAN (Petra) — Mid-year examinations started Saturday at the University of Jordan's different faculties. After the week-long session, the university will be closed until Feb. 5 when it will open for the second half of the current academic year.

Irbid towns get development loans

IRBID (Petra) — The Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) has approved a loan of JD 60,000 to Anjara town in Irbid Governorate and JD 20,000 for nearby Ba'oun and Samou'. The loans will finance building of schools, purchase of land for municipal purposes and construction of roads.

Scanning electron microscope makes science-fiction out of mundane objects

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the American Centre this week are a series of photographs that seem to depict strange and exciting landscapes of other worlds, where no human being ever set foot. There in black and white are the weird and wonderful vistas envisioned by science fiction writers.

With a little imagination you can lose yourself in vast (the sense of scale is entirely individual) primeval forests of articulated spines. You can be frightened by gigantic insects, that crawl like living nightmares out of the sand or you can be entranced by the beauty of the simple forms that lay scattered in forgotten valleys like the sherds of previous civilisations. All are lit, not by the friendly yellow rays of the sun but by the cold, penetrating, neon glare of an alien star which gives a dreamlike clarity and a depth that is almost tangible.

Far from being shots of the surface of Jupiter brought back by some wandering satellite, however, these photographs are of much more mundane objects — leaves, cucumbers, mites — as seen under the amazing magnification of the scanning electron microscope (SEM). In these days of mass communications we have all seen the fascinating results of this process from time to time, but what makes these shots so different from the normal SEM pictures is that the microscope has been manipulated to give the images it produces the qualities of a landscape.

In other words the SEM has been used as an artistic tool, much

in the same way as one would use a brush and not by a scientist, but by an artist — James Neal Phillips.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Phillips, a ceramicist, first became interested in the SEM during his studies at the University of Iowa. A poster from the Biology Department with a photograph of an object that looked very similar to the forms Phillips was at that time creating in clay, offered lessons on how to use the SEM to students outside the faculty. Phillips applied and gained a grant to use the SEM from an aesthetic point of view — much to the initial scepticism of the laboratory technicians and biology students. Later when they saw the results he was obtaining they became so enthusiastic they would constantly be offering him their

along with the labelling of the actual specimen photographed are not important. He argues that the viewer should detach himself from these irrelevancies and let his imagination run loose so that he can enjoy the beauty of nature's incomparable forms and allow himself to "wander through these landscapes beyond the periphery".

Phillips believes his work to be unique. Although a lot of scientists have published these images in the form of coffee table books for the wonder and aesthetic pleasure of the layman, none have manipulated the microscope in order to achieve different effects. As to a scientist, an impressive image is one that must be discarded.

The artist maintains that he has barely scratched the surface of this field, the potential of the SEM being enormous. "A person could spend an entire artistic lifetime using it, and with the continual improvement of the microscope there are more and more new effects waiting to be discovered." In the future Phillips would like to add colour to the process which would be done in an arbitrary way by inputting the black and white print into a video screen.

Whether these photographs can be classed as "art" is discussed in a provocative introduction written by the artist, some points of which few would disagree with. Whatever one's personal viewpoint, these photographs are original immensely stimulating and totally absorbing.

The exhibition opens Sunday at 6:00 p.m. after the artist has given a lecture about his work, and continues until Tuesday, Jan. 18.

ART REVIEW

own new finds to photograph.

Over a period of a year and a half, Phillips produced some 300 photographs, of which this exhibit is but a small selection. They are however sufficient to show how Phillips played with the SEM controls to make his landscapes. By rotating the specimen through 360° by moving it backwards and forwards, to the right and to the left, as he did in "Fungus 2" he smeared the image and achieved waves and ripples — an illusion of water.

But these details, Phillips feels

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مكتبة الجordan

By Jan Ismail

JAKARTA — Essential equipment for reading foreign newspapers in Indonesia includes a pair of rubber gloves, tweezers and a powerful lamp.

It is common in Jakarta's hotel lobbies to see people trying to peel apart the sticky pages of Time or Newsweek magazines with ink-blackened fingers.

Others peer at fellow guests through a hole neatly cut in the front page of the Asian Wall Street Journal or myopically hold the International Herald Tribune

up to the light.

The reason is censorship, which officially does not exist.

Subscribers to the Herald Tribune who telephoned the distributors recently to ask why they had not received their copy were told the entire issue had fallen victim to censorship and been banned by the attorney general's office.

The ban was apparently due to an article on President Suharto's leadership style, reprinted from

the Washington Post.

Enterprising readers, wielding eyelash tweezers in sticky fingers, can often get clues to the offending articles from the odd words still legible under a mass of printers' ink. Others, their curiosity aroused, get copies under plain cover from abroad or photocopies from embassies.

The constitution guarantees freedom of expression, both written and spoken, but the local press is bound by a "consensus" with

the government not to publish news which might inflame religious or ethnic sentiments, or other matters deemed sensitive.

As foreign journalists are not included in this, the only way to control the inflow of their news into Indonesia is by censorship.

Last May the government effectively banned seven foreign newspapers by not renewing their import licences — the Dutch NRC Handelsblad, the London Observer, Le Figaro, L'aurore

and France-Soir from France, and Australia's Sydney Morning Herald and the Australian.

Censoring of the foreign press still allowed in is sometimes done haphazardly by importers.

A recent Newsweek edition on Hong Kong, for example, had its front cover completely blackened and papered over apparently because it showed a street scene with many billboards and shop signs in Chinese characters.

Displays of Chinese characters

have been banned in Indonesia since the abortive Communist coup of 1965 which the government said was masterminded by Peking.

Ironically those responsible for blacking out the offending characters apparently cannot distinguish Chinese from Japanese or Korean script, which also suffer when they appear in pictures or advertisements.

Importers of foreign magazines and newspapers are sometimes

overzealous in self-censoring articles.

But one company spokesman said if they always waited for a decision from the attorney general's office, subscribers would complain of late delivery.

So they black out every Indonesian-dated story and all script which could be Chinese.

The local press also suffers censorship. Last year one daily newspaper and one national news magazine had their publication

permits revoked for months for reporting general election violence and carrying the unofficial election results.

A new press law abolished the need for individual publications to obtain such permits but made it compulsory for a publishing company to have a general "licence for press publication."

Critics of the new law say it strengthens the government's control over the national press.

They say the government can now paralyse a company's entire operation, instead of just closing down one of its publications.

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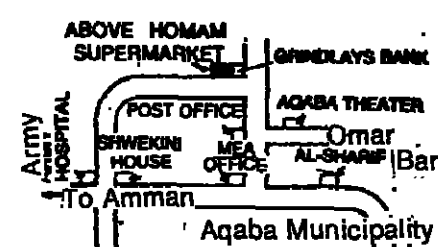
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Symbol of the alternative

LEBANESE President Amin Gemayel's last appeal for help from U.S. President Ronald Reagan is not Lebanon's best hope of getting the occupying Israeli forces out of that country. Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal from the Bekaa Valley and the north under the present circumstances is not the answer either. Mere Arab condemnation of Israel's militaristic behaviour and policies of extortion and blackmail seems to encourage rather than deter aggression. The United Nations is politically bankrupt, and the international community looks helpless to do anything about the situation.

There is not, then, much hope that Lebanon will regain its sovereignty soon, except grips on Israeli-dictated terms orchestrated and blessed by the United States. Yet, however, resistance attacks against invading Israelis were stepped up, raising hopes of renewed determination to fight the enemy and illuminating but a dark area of a much-needed Arab strength.

The guerrilla attacks, whether carried out by Lebanese or Palestinian groups or individuals, symbolise the alternative to giving up. It may not be militarily significant that Israel lost nine soldiers, and another 33

injured, in Lebanon since Dec. 1, but the attacks should constantly remind the Israelis of the price they have to pay for their aggression and continued occupation of that, or any other, Arab country and territory. It is now high time for the Arabs to remember that without the will to fight and resist and to build up the necessary strength for defending the homeland, Israel is unlikely ever to abandon its expansionist plans to build an empire from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Lebanon, as we should be well aware, cannot be left as a test case for American diplomacy in the Middle East. At stake there is whether Israel could bring the Lebanese to negotiate first and then agree to Israeli filling the Arab vacuum, right under U.S. auspices. In that case, President Gemayel may appeal for help from the U.S. and the whole world may remain silent, but the Arabs cannot simply afford to leave it up to the Israelis to reap the fruit of their occupation of half of the country. The fact that Arab resistance groups are stepping up their attacks against the Israeli occupation forces at this difficult time proves that neither has the battle been lost nor will the Arabs give up easily, but that much more needs to be done.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

1. Ra'i: Time for U.S. to break self-created barriers

A few days ago Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir pointed out that direct Israeli-Palestinian talks were under way to outline an agreement for the release of Israeli prisoners of war held by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Following that, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Palestinian forces Khalil Al Wazir dismissed as "groundless" Mr. Shamir's statement.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that Israel, some say or another, is ready to hold talks with the PLO, regardless of the motives, or whether real contacts have taken place or not.

Does not this principle of Israeli acceptance of holding talks with PLO representatives rebuff all excuses made by the U.S. administration for not entering into a direct dialogue with the Palestinian leadership?

It is obvious that the prisoners' issue is a by-product of the Palestinian problem, and a direct part of the military confrontation between the occupying Israeli forces and Palestinian fighters, in Lebanon and which definitely testifies to the political nature of the issue. And as long as Israel is

ready to talk this aspect of the root-problem, it is strange that the U.S. administration should have any reservations to opening a direct dialogue with the PLO, and reconsidering its attitude towards Palestinian rights.

It may be argued that the prisoners issue is a human one, but this can not rule out the political background of the question. A similar situation now presents itself. Palestinian rights are basically political, but this does not deny these rights their human aspect.

It is hard to find any reasonable justification for the U.S. administration to refrain from holding direct talks with the PLO on Palestinian human rights, when Israel has accepted the principle of direct talks with the PLO on the Israeli prisoners' question.

The time has come for the Americans to bypass the barrier they have created themselves, as they stand towards the Palestinians and their legitimate representatives has far hardened the Israeli line of thinking, and made any progress in the peace process in the region rather difficult.

2. Dustour: Israel tries another form of blackmail

Israeli President Yitzhak Navon asserts that the "Arab people should have held solidarity rallies" against Israel for its "barbaric invasion of Lebanon, and human crimes committed against the Palestinian Lebanese people. Mr. Navon also seems to suggest that the Egyptian press should have favoured mass annihilation of defenceless civilians by Israel and hailed them as glorious deeds, or else it would be conspiring against peace in the region, according to the Israeli book.

Furthermore, if the Egyptians do not withhold their tongue and stop criticising Israeli crimes, they will be in a position to support President Nasser's peace initiative for the Middle East. The whole world condemned the barbarian and

Nazi-style Israeli practices against the Palestinian and Lebanese people, but to Navon and the extremist mentality that administers Israel, it is unforgivable that the Egyptian people, press and government take a responsible stand towards the Israeli invasion and war-crimes in Lebanon. The argument behind such falsifications is that they represent a violation of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

If this is the case, and taking into account the blatant failure of the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations on Lebanon, and nevertheless, the ineffective American role in these talks, it is quite natural to apprehend that peace prospects for the Middle East can in no way be promising.

Investigation into the Sabra and Shatila massacres nearing the end

By Galina Vromen
Reuter

TEL AVIV — A judicial inquiry into the Beirut massacre of Palestinians, whose hearings have rocked Israel, is nearing the end of a potentially explosive investigation that began almost 11 weeks ago. It is winding up behind closed doors, with the three-man commission taking final testimony from generals and politicians anxious to answer damaging allegations about their role.

For the past week the commission has mostly heard testimony from witnesses who chose to appear because they wanted a chance to clear their names or rebut evidence given by others. The atmosphere has changed since the commission began its sittings on Oct. 19 in a drab classroom on Jerusalem's Hebrew University campus. At the start it was just the commission, headed by Chief Justice Yitzhak Kahan, which asked the questions.

Burly generals wriggled uncomfortably on the witness seat as they explained why and how Israel sent Falangists into Beirut refugee camps to round up Palestinian guerrillas — an operation that turned into tragedy when the Lebanese militia began killing hundreds of innocent, defenceless civilians. Defence Minister Ariel Sharon gulped down glass after glass of water when he faced the commission at its first open session.

The dramatic move that changed the whole tenor of the investigation was the commission's warning to nine witnesses that they could be harmed by its findings. The nine included Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Mr. Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and three top generals. It prompted most of the nine

to hire lawyers, whose cross-examination of witnesses and frequent interventions have given the hearings a courtroom atmosphere.

After the last evidence is heard, it will probably take weeks for the commission to sift through volumes of transcripts and compile its report. Mr. Begin has made clear that if his government is blamed, he will press for a general election. Public sessions showed the commission focussing on what the government knew of the operation's risks and how quickly Israel moved to stop the killings once it heard of the massacre.

Massacre in detail

Following is a detailed picture of last September's events as it emerged at the commission hearings:

4 PM: first reports that Falange leader and president-elect Bashir Gemayel may have been assassinated in explosion at Phalange headquarters in Beirut. 8 PM: midnight: Israelis, in meetings between Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, Mr. Begin and Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan, plan to move into west Beirut to police area if Gemayel has been killed. When assassination is confirmed, Israeli troops are ordered to enter west Beirut at dawn.

Wednesday, Sept. 15
5 AM: Israeli troops enter Beirut. Around the same time, General Eitan and General Amir Drori, in charge of Israeli action in Lebanon, meet Flange in first discussion of militants' entry into the camps, according to General Drori's testimony.

Thursday, Sept. 16
10 AM: Israelis receive final orders that Falange to enter camps to sweep out close to 2,000 Palestinian guerrillas who have been firing from the camps, according to

General Drori and front-line Commander Amos Yaron.

Defence Minister Sharon testified he made the decision, basing himself on a June cabinet ruling to encourage the Falange to take an active part in operations.

11 AM-3 PM: General Drori and General Yaron hold several meetings with the Falange. Israelis agree to provide night-time illumination and back up the militia with fire if they meet strong guerrilla resistance. An agent of Israel's Mossad secret service appointed to act as a liaison officer with the Falange, Israelis decide to allow a force of 100-150 Falange into the camps, according to testimony of the two generals.

General Yaron has Israeli observation points set up on rooftops near the camp with "limited visibility" during the day and none at night, according to his testimony.

5-6 PM: Falange force enters camps. General Yaron told the inquiry he listened in on their communications line and ordered Israeli flare support.

7:30 PM: Israeli cabinet meets and is told of Falange entry into the camps. The only cabinet member to raise any concern about the move is Deputy Prime Minister David Levy. Chief of Staff Eitan warns Falange are "sharpening their knives" for revenge, according to meeting minutes read out by the commission in questioning. Mr. Begin testified he did not hear General Eitan because he was busy preparing summary of the meeting.

10-11 PM: General Yaron said he received irregular reports with fluctuating numbers of 120, 300, 45 killed, "terrorists and civilians" in the camp. He cannot confirm the reports and decides not to pass them on.

Friday, Sept. 17

5 AM: Lieutenant-Colonel Moshe Cheveroni, a military intelligence officer, is awakened with a report that 300 people were killed in the camps. He testified he had the report passed on to Mr. Sharon's aide, Avi Dudai. Lawyers for Mr. Dudai have tried to establish report never reached him.

9 AM: Lieutenant Avi Grubovsky, a frontline soldier, sees Falange shoot five women and children. He reports to his superiors. He testified he was told an investigation was under way and he should not intervene.

11 AM: Communications Minister Mordechai Zippori is told by Israeli military correspondent Zev Shiff that militiamen called Foreign Minister Shamir with the report Mr. Shamir acknowledges the conversation, but says the word "butchering" was never used. Mr. Shamir says he did not try to confirm the report.

11:30 AM: General Drori meets at the front with General Yaron who tells him of reports of a woman who said she was hit on the head with a rifle butt by Falange. He also reports on other west Beirut areas where Falange harming residents. General Drori testified he had "a bad feeling" about the operation and ordered the Falange to stop their action.

4 PM: General Eitan and General Drori meet Falange who say they are under American pressure to get out of the camps. General Eitan orders them to finish mopping up and leave camps by dawn.

6-7:30 AM: Foreign Ministry official Ariel Kenet testified he received a report via Israeli official in Beirut that U.S. envoy Morris Draper was concerned Falange entry to west Beirut could have "horrible results". He passes information to Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kinche

and to Defence Ministry. Mr. Sharon acknowledges receiving a message that Americans reporting Falange in the camp, but said he did not react because "there was nothing new in this".

8 PM: Haim Baron, deputy director-general of Foreign Ministry, said he received a call from an unnamed American official of rumoured Israeli shootings of Palestinians in a Beirut refugee camp, later proved untrue. He said he passed the information on to an aide of Mr. Begin, but the aide, Lieutenant Azriel Nevo, denied he ever spoke to Mr. Baron about this.

8:30-9 PM: Mr. Sharon spoke to General Eitan who told him the Falange had "caused more civilian casualties than expected." Eitan told him the militia had been ordered out by dawn, according to the defence minister's testimony. Saturday, Sept. 18

5-6 AM: General Yaron sees from Israeli forward outpost Falange leading Europeans out of the camp. Falange claim their prisoners are Baader-Meinhof terrorists. Israelis question them and discover they are doctors from the camp hospital.

6-7:30 AM: Last of Falange leave the camps. Morning hours: A furious Mr. Draper calls Israel's Foreign Ministry representative in Beirut, Bruce Kashdan, to say he has people counting dead bodies in the camp and clearly holding Israel responsible.

Zev Zacharin, an aide to General Eitan, testified the general told him Mr. Begin called in the morning to ask about reports of Israeli shootings in Gaza hospital, bordering the camps. Mr. Begin denied ever making the call and said he was in synagogue all morning.

Mr. Begin said he first heard of the massacre in a BBC radio broadcast on Saturday evening.

Dunums by the hundred

JERUSALEM — The pioneers of Zionism, so legend has it, used to encourage their more faint-hearted colleagues by telling them they would build the Jewish state "one dunum at a time". This gradualist concept had been central to Israel's colonisation of the occupied territories since their troops moved in 1967.

Today, however, with the full power of a modern state at their disposal and admiring acquiescence of the democratic world, the dunums come by the hundred. The Begin administration has accelerated the process, and made it a top priority to grab land and get settlers planted on it ever since the settlements question has become a matter of concern in Washington.

Conflict over confiscations has become an almost daily event. This week 64 landowners from three villages near Jenin became the latest in a long line of Palestinians who have taken out injunctions to stop work being carried out on their land. The high court ordered a stop to road construction on 1,200 dunums of their land which they said had started immediately after they had been informed verbally by the local military commander that it was confiscated. The order issued on

Dec. 15 should stop the work immediately. The same day, however, villagers from Beni Naim, near Hebron, were complaining that while they had such an order and the court was considering their ownership claim, Israeli bulldozers were already clearing 3,000 dunums of their land.

Meanwhile farmers from Beit Jarar in the Ramallah district complained to the press that Israeli from a nearby settlement simply drove heavy equipment on to their land and started ploughing it up. Settlers, the villagers say, kept them off their property at gunpoint and are now claiming the areas as their own. At the end of a busy week for the court, Hebron municipality was granted an order which should halt military government plans to destroy Arab homes in the centre of the city.

The demolitions started over a month ago after the government announced that it was to sponsor an urban settlement in the town. As they accrue more and more land the Israelis are turning their full attention to increasing the number of settlers. In an announcement timed to coincide with the opening of the World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem on Dec. 9, settlement officials

announced that the number of Israelis in the occupied territories would double in the next three months to around 50,000. They based their estimate on the fact that planners expect to have finished 6,000 apartments in dormitory settlements within easy commuting distance of Israel's main urban centres. They say that they will be occupied immediately.

Settlement experts in Israel are encouraged, that middle-class Ashkenazi Jews have begun to take full advantage of regulations allowing them to own property in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which were promulgated by the military authorities two years ago. According to local press reports they are now considering plans to encourage Oriental Jewish settlement in areas around Nablus. At present kibbutz and Gush Emunim settlers are almost exclusively western Jews; the only opposition to settlement policy comes from groups supported mainly by Sephardim.

At the Zionist Congress fights broke out between Tami delegates and supporters of Begin's Herut party. Tami is a predominantly Moroccan Jewish party founded before the last elections. The fight started when Tami backers heckled speakers calling for more cash for settlements. With the increase of settlements and settlers and the apparent inability of outside forces to back their condemnations with muscle there is now speculation about how long it will be before the situation becomes irreversible. Elias Freij, the mayor of Bethlehem, puts the time scale as "two or three years" only on present efforts to stem the tide.

Meanwhile one Israeli liberal sees a link between the settlement surge and the latest outbreak of violence in the West Bank. Matti Peled, a retired general and leader of the small Sheli party, said in reaction to news that a Palestinian youth had been shot dead in Nablus on Dec. 18: "This is part of an Israeli plan of oppression aimed at breaking the resistance of Nablus in preparation for settlers to enter and erect settlements similar to that at Kiryat Arba in Hebron." Samir Tasiq died from chest wounds after border guards shot at the legs of demonstrators at a Nablus school. The Protesters were opposing the repeated curfews imposed on nearby Baalata refugee camp, the scene of several clashes between its occupants and settlers going to pray at an impromptu religious school set up nearby. Since settlers shot dead a local boy in October their cars and buses have been stoned almost daily. Residents tell reporters that they see the religious school as the first step in the path outlined by Peled.

Belgium: Unending economic crisis

By Ethan Bronner
Reuter

BRUSSELS — Belgium's centre-right coalition has survived a difficult year of harsh austerity measures but the country's unending economic crisis makes its future insecure. Twelve months ago Prime Minister Wilfried Martens put together his fifth coalition in four years and moved rapidly to set the crippled economy back on its feet.

He clamped controls on wages and prices, devalued the franc by eight and a half per cent, reduced social security payments, cut family allowances and provided incentives to industry through tax relief and the creation of enterprise zones. His survival thus far, and the victory for the centre and right in local elections last October, suggest Belgium is still willing to give his programme a chance. If the government serves its full four-year term, it will be a post-war record.

But unemployment, the highest in the European Community, has continued to rise, the country's main steel company is on the verge of bankruptcy, and the trade unions are fuming.

A variety of indicators show moderate success for the first year of what is called here the "Martens government mark five." Kredietbank, one of the country's leading commercial banks, estimates that next year's balance of payments current account deficit for the Belgo-Luxembourg economic union will be cut to about 100 billion francs (\$2 billion) from an estimated 150 billion francs (\$3 billion) this year.

The Belgian franc looks stronger than in many months and few predict any need for another devaluation. The country's retail index has risen nearly every month since May, the industrial production index rose more than 19 per cent in September, the latest available month, and export profit margins are up an average 15 per cent. To continue the upturn, Mr. Martens plans further wage and price restrictions and continued reductions in social security. Those, say Le Soir newspaper, will make 1983 an extremely difficult year for the average Belgian, whose real income will go down for the second year in a row. It suggests that will not make political survival any easier.

Serious threat

Early last month, the unions staged two successful general strikes and local government employees, including police and firemen, brought Belgium to a standstill in their own anti-government stoppages. The unions have threatened to make 1983 an even more troublesome

year. But another, potentially more serious threat comes from within Mr. Martens' own government.

The internal dispute concerns government aid to Cockerill-Sambre, the country's main steel production company. Last year, the coalition agreed to grant it 12 billion francs (\$240 million) to save it from collapse. But the firm has announced the need for another 10 billion francs (\$200 million) in order to survive and the Flemish members of the coalition object to granting more money to French-speaking Wallonia, where Cockerill-Sambre is located.

The collapse of Cockerill-Sambre would put thousands of Belgians in the *dole queue* and cause a major blow to one of the country's principle industries.

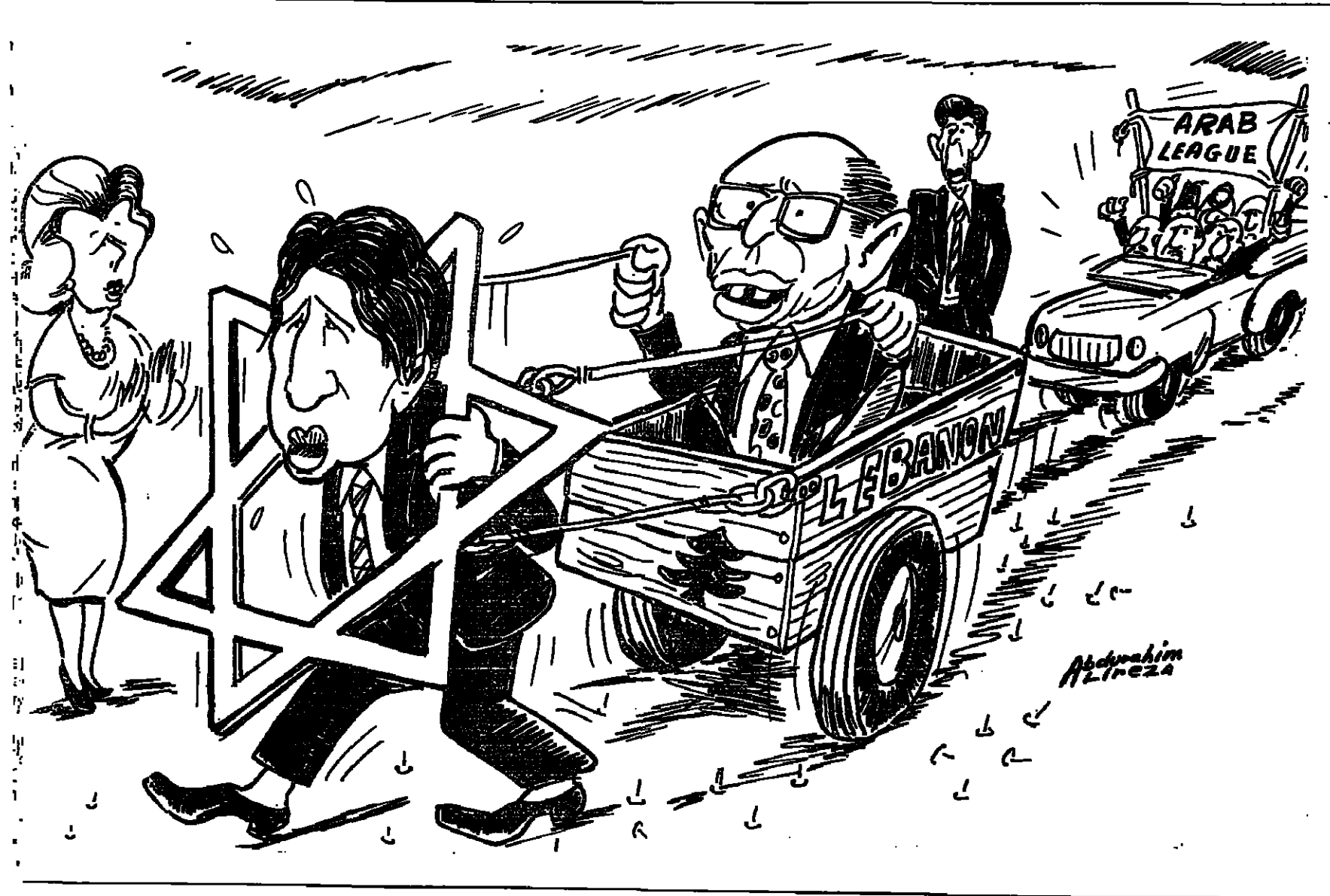
The Dutch-speaking Flemish, who have always lived in uneasy partnership with the French-speaking Walloons, insist that further aid to the firm would deprive their region of much needed funds. Economy Minister Mark Eyskens, a member of the Flemish branch of the Social Christian Party, said last month that such funding should be taken out of the hands of the central government and given to the regional administrations.

Political sources say this would vastly reduce the possibility of the aid being granted as the Walloon government could never afford it. Many of the Flemish Social Christians in the government agree with Mr. Eyskens, however, and Prime Minister Martens, also a Dutch-speaker, is in precarious position. The French-speaking Liberal members of the coalition have expressed outrage at Mr. Eyskens' view. Louis Michel, president of the party, said a regionalisation of funding would spell the death of Wallonia.

The Socialist Party of Seraing, in Wallonia, had a reaction typical of the region. It condemned what it called "the plot of the past several years by certain Flemish politicians to sabotage the industrial fabric of Wallonia, and especially the steel industry."

Gloomy year

Cockerill-Sambre has already announced plans to cut pay by five to 10 per cent and lay off about eight per cent of the workforce in 1983, yet the firm faces a gloomy year ahead. By all accounts, so does Mr. Martens. He must bring his coalition to a decision on Cockerill, find new ways of stemming unemployment and encourage investment without alienating the workers or employers. Banque Bruxelles Lambert said in a report that Mr. Martens measures thus far have been of real help to the corporate sector. But it added that if world demand continued to fall, Belgian industry would not recover.



مركز الصحافة

Folk troupe dances real life

The Egyptian National Folklore Troupe gave a performance here recently sponsored by the Amman Club. Salwa El Taher interviewed and watched the troupe, and discovered that their dances are much more than imaginative art.

The Egyptian National Folklore Troupe has mesmerised audiences the world over. It is a government-sponsored institute that employs hundreds of dancers and numerous choreographers. Dances go through a rigorous routine of daily training.

"We have to practise for at least five to six hours daily," said Summaya Kamal, practising for the performance in Amman. "On tours, we have to put in double the amount of preparation."

The troupe came to Jordan for the first time in 1973, before Summaya joined. "But we all came last January to do some TV recording," she said. "However, I have to admit we know very little of the country. As you see, we do not get the chance to do any sight-seeing."

"Tonight, there are only six of us to perform dances originally designed for twenty or more. We feel at a bit of a disadvantage. We cannot fill the stage, therefore we have to try so much harder in order to make an impact, to convince and satisfy the audience. But we're not worried about it."

Here, Summaya smiles with modest assurance: "We're used to it. We are also familiar with Arab audiences. We have performed in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and Oman. The audiences were very receptive and appreciative of our style -- which is that of the people."

Living paintings

The troupe has a special, unique style. They present different 'tableaux' -- living paintings which capture the moods and ways of the people. All their motifs are taken from folk life. One of their dances *El Bamburva* -- shown over and over again by TV stations throughout the Arab World -- portrays the people who make a living from boats around Alexandria, Port-Said and Suez. They help the boats moor up and might do some fishing as well. Like so many 'pockets' of Egyptian society, they have their own clothes, dialect and way of life.

And here lies the challenge the troupe has to meet: how to sublimate folk life with enough homely and precision into authentic art? Choreographer Ahmed Nadim explains:

"We undertake a great deal of field research. In order to produce *Layaly El Kodja* -- the troupe's latest tableau, dealing with popular exorcism -- I attended countless sessions of Zar (exorcism) in Cairo, Alexandria and the villages. The theme has been tackled before, by Nelly Mazloom and El Hijiwi. When I picked it up I knew I was picking an added challenge. But I was set on doing it. I hope you like the result."

The result is stunning. For, in order to deal with this controversial subject, one has to be familiar with its mechanics. The Zar in Egypt is a form of faith-healing, of popular psychiatry. It is used mostly by women. The *Kodja*

(faith-healer) presides over the sessions. She is informed ahead of time of the "patient's" complaint. The ailments treated vary from sterility to depression, but one of the most common manifestations of stress and grief they deal with is a sort of speech-paralysis.

Dance of exorcism

Layaly El Kodja deals with a



Summaya Kamal as Layaly El Kodja



woman who arrives tongue-tied. The notion is that someone has cast a spell on her. A dancer portraying the devil harasses her. Then the *Kodja* arrives with her arsenal of chants, incantations and incense. She sets about hypnotising the patient, suggesting to her that she is about to rid herself of the devil. Then she orders the drummers to start. The patient

sways to their beat, right and left, rhythmically, slowly at first, then faster and faster. She is then joined by other dancers -- her friends, relatives or simply people who come to participate in the Zar until the whole thing builds up into a mass frenzy. The patient, in a trance, now falls on the floor, exhausted, and might lose consciousness. When she recovers, she is often able to speak.

The "therapeutic" value of such sessions is still the subject of bitter controversy. The process relies a great deal on hypnosis and suggestion, while the violent shaking of the body allows for the release of a great deal of frustration. "Tongue-tied" people often suffer from inhibitions, guilt and accumulated tensions that they are able to let out during the session.

One of the most primitive forms of tension-release, it is not harmful in itself. But it has several drawbacks. It allows the perpetuation of superstitions: the patient always thinks in terms of getting rid of the devil, or of the evil eye. Its effects are spectacular but short-lived, since it does not deal with the roots of the problem. The *Kodja* often develops a dangerous power over the patient, which she can use to impose unreasonable demands and to extort extravagant amounts of money.

But, argue the realists, if you take the Zar away, can these people afford the expenses of medical psychiatry? And, doesn't psychiatry itself often aim at the temporary release of acute pain? And don't some psychiatrists use their diplomas to extort astronomical fees from people they have rendered entirely dependent on them?

The controversy goes on... but so do the ways of the people. For these are stronger and more deep-rooted than any law. They

defy the intellect, and go on as components of a culture or a sub-culture. On stage *Layaly El Kodja* is one of the most physically demanding dances, deployed with an amazing mixture of realism and expressionism by ample movements and violent rhythmic sways.

Another dance, *Um El Khulul*, portrays the people who collect this particular shell found along the beaches of Alexandria. The process of picking *Um El Khulul* is a complicated one, because it lies deep in the sand, surrounded by sea-weed.

Field research

"I worked on this dance for two years" says Mr. Ahmed Nadim. "I went to live with the shell-fishers, to study their movements and their tools. But I also had to record their songs and capture their moods."

A wistful, nostalgic tableau, rising in a crescendo to a triumphant finale is the result. The fishermen sing away their helplessness and their fatalism. There is hard work extending over long hours, requir-

ing patience and skill, but still leaving them to the mercy of the elements and to the good-will of Providence. They have to be wise and resigned.

But they are also a romantic people whose dreams are fed by the boundless seas. In seasons of plenty, they join the girls in endless merriment. Free of the cares and stresses of city life, they can celebrate the glory of nature and love with buoyant steps accompanied by their own kind of castanets: long tin double spoons used for the final collective

savouring of the meal. Asked if they were pleased by the performance of the troupe and by the turnout, the management of the Amman Club said: "We only wish we had brought the whole troupe. It was a matter of expenses. But we plan soon to bring the whole troupe over for several performances."

For the audience was captivated by these artists who can find the magic in every gesture, sing the joy of living and the pain of loss, and truthfully 'dance the people' on stage.



Above and below left: Dance portraying the collectors of Um El Khulul

Does artificial heart give real life?

By Lin Harris
Reuter

NEW YORK -- Medical and moral controversy surrounds the world's first implantation of an artificial heart into a human, with some critics dismissing the operation as empty heroics and others questioning whether a person can adjust to living without a real heart.

Many have hailed as a medical miracle the removal of the diseased heart of 61-year-old retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark and its replacement with an aluminium and plastic polyurethane pump nearly five weeks ago.

But scientists and laymen alike have expressed growing uncertainty, wondering whether this time technology may have gone too far.

The New York Times denounced the implantation, saying: "medicine's real triumphs lie in improving the quality of life for everyone, not in death-defying heroics that benefit, or torment, a few."

The Times said the Clark experiment meant "the physician has succeeded only in prolonging death." Psychologists warn that

even relatively simple operations on a person's heart routinely leave "trauma and paranoid fantasies" and add that the effects of removing an individual's entire heart could be emotionally staggering.

Dr. Steven Ellman, a clinical psychologist at New York's City University who specialises in neurophysiology, warned against thinking of the heart as a simple "pump."

The heart, he said, is the key to an individual's concept of self-control and membership in the human race, which is why it is so central in myth and poetic allusions through the ages.

Having it removed and replaced by a machine could trigger an emotional reaction leading to severe psychosis, several psychologists said.

Directed by the brain, the heart carries a person's emotions. Fear or anger, for example, make it pump faster.

But Dr. Clark's artificial heart pumps at a fixed rate, regardless of the emotional cues sent by his brain, and the effect of that loss of "auto regulation" could be psychologically devastating, experts said.

Dr. Harvey Wolinski, a car-

diologist at New York's Mount Sinai Hospital, estimates that the loss of this emotional coring response could result in the severe psychic detachment often experienced by patients on kidney dialysis machines "due to their giving up so much control over their own bodies."

What psychological effect the operation has actually had on Dr. Clark is not known. He cannot speak with any fluency because of throat operations to permit breathing and, as yet, he has not undergone extensive psychological tests.

But on the fifth day after his first operation, Dr. Clark did suffer unexplained seizures.

Dr. Ellman said he could not rule out the possibility that these seizures were psychologically induced.

Dr. Clark's doctors insisted he was "the ideal candidate" for the drastic surgery because he was mentally strong and as tough as "Rocky Mountain sagebrush."

For many doctors, the operation has also complicated an already confused area -- what constitutes a natural death.

According to Dr. Wolinski, "it is getting harder and harder to

monitor when a person is dead. "With an artificial heart, you don't have the endpoint of knowing when a heart stops, and if you have artificial respiration you don't have the endpoint of knowing when the lungs stop," Dr. Wolinski added.

"Even when you are using the brain as endpoint, you have to be very specific that there is nothing else going on that could give the appearance of brain death."

Another problem for scientists is whether the vast sums required to manufacture, insert and maintain an artificial heart are justified, given the limited number of people it would actually help and the need for research in other areas surrounding heart disease.

Dr. Ellman said he had no fundamental objection to developing artificial hearts, but he would rather see more money go to researching the effects of stress.

He said artificial heart implants were "obviously an upper-middle-class intervention. It is very unlikely that anyone middle class, lower middle class, certainly not the working poor, is going to avail themselves of artificial heart: in the next 10 to 15 years."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 Kuran
17:10 Children's Programme
17:20 News in Arabic
17:30 Circus
17:40 High Chaparral
18:00 Local Programme
18:10 Local Programme
18:20 News in Arabic
18:30 Arabic Series
18:40 Arabic Series
18:50 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

19:00 French Programme
19:10 News in French
19:20 News in Hebrew
19:30 News in Arabic
19:40 News in Arabic
19:50 News in Arabic
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23:50 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN

85.5 MHz, AM 4.99 MHz, FM
A party on 95.90 MHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:25 Morning Show
08:50 News Summary
09:20 News Summary
09:50 News Summary
10:20 News Summary
10:50 News Summary
11:20 News Summary
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ABC WORLD SERVICE

010 727 1415 kHz
0600 Newswatch 06:30 The Fred Woods

Collection 06:45 Financial Review 06:55

Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09
British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox
07:30 Music For the Court of Louis XIV
07:45 Letter from Amman 08:00 News-
desk 08:30 Big Band Sound 09:00 World
News 09:09 News about Britain 09:15
From Our Own Correspondent 09:30
Sarah and Company 10:00 World News
10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's
Yours 11:00 World News 11:09 British
Press Review 11:15 People and Politics
11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Classical
Record Review 12:30 Religious Service
13:00 World News 13:09 News About
Britain 13:15 Letter from Amman
13:30 Play of the Week 15:00 World
News 15:09 Commentary 15:15 Good
Books 15:30 Short Story 15:45 The
Sandi Jones Request Show 16:30 A
Stroke of the Pen 17:00 Radio Newswatch
17:15 Current Affairs 18:00 World News
18:09 Commentary 18:15 From Our
Own Correspondent 18:35 Financial
Own Correspondent 18:35 Financial
19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40
Reflections 19:45 Sports 20:00 World
News 20:09 News about Britain 20:15
Radio Newswatch 20:30 Animal, Veget-
arian or Visceral? 21:00 Jazz Workshop
21:15 Black House 22:00 World News
22:09 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox
22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 Makers
of Musical Taste 23:15 The Pleasure's
Yours 24:00 World News 00:09 Science
is Acting 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sport-
scast 01:00 World News 01:09 Com-
mentary 01:15 Letter from Amman
01:30 Talking About Meze

VOICE OF AMERICA

07:00 The Breakfast Show 17:00 News
and Topical Reports 17:15 New Hor-
izons 17:30 News in the News 18:00 Spe-
cial English News 18:10 World and their
Society 18:15 Special English Feature:
People in America 18:30 Music USA:
Standards 19:00 News and New Pro-
ductions (USA) 19:15 Culture Choice 19:30
News 19:40 Special English:
News, World and their Society, Feature:
People in America 20:30 Music USA:
(Standards) 21:00 News and Topical
Reports 21:15 New Horizons 21:30 Is-
sues in the News 22:00 Special English:
News, World and their Society 22:15 The
Concert Hall 22:30 News and New Pro-
ductions USA 23:15 Culture Choice 23:30
Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

* Sept. Morts sur Ordinance, at the
French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

EXHIBITION

* Photo exhibit "Landscapes Beyond
the Periphery" by James Neil Phillips, at
the American Centre, Lecture at 6:30
p.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Amman, tel. 24500.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman
Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek
Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the
Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 43453.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh,
71351.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh,
75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)
Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-
denominational) meets at Southern
Baptist School in Sheikhan, 663249.
CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 41909
Guedez Institute 44203
Soviet Cultural Centre 24040
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Turkish Cultural Centre 665195
Haya Arts Centre 667181
Hussein Youth Cui 41793
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes
over 100 years old. Also models
from Madaba and Jerash 14th to 18th

centuries). The Roman Theatre,

Amman, Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5
p.m. Year-round, Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an
excellent collection of the antiquities of
Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill).
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m.
- 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col-
lection of paintings, ceramics, and
sculptures by contemporary Islamic
artists from most of the Muslim coun-
tries. A collection of paintings by 19th
Century orientalist artists. Mutataz, al-
Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours:
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. -
6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military
memorabilia dating from the Arab
Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman.
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 51769.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every
first and third Wednesday at the Tyche
Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings
every second and fourth Wednesday at
the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings
every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,
1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday
at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman,
Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

06:13 Fair
06:38 (Sunrise) Shams
11:43 Dhul
14:30 'Asr
16:45 Maghrib
18:11 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia
Information department at Amman Air-
port tel. 92205-6, where it should always
be verified.

ARRIVALS

04:00 Baghdad (I.R.A.)
06:25 Dar-es-Salaam (BA)
06:45 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:55 Agaba (RJ)
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:25 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:35 Kuwait (KU)
10:45 Jeddah (SV)
10:50 Cairo (RJ)
10:55 Athens (RJ)
11:00 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
11:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:30 London (RJ)
11:45 Zurich (RJ)
11:55 Paris, Beirut (AF)
12:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
12:10 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
12:20 Rome (RJ)
12:30 Beirut (MEA)
12:35 Baghdad (RJ)
12:40 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 Baghdad (RJ)
12:50 Cairo (RJ)
13:00 Cairo (RJ)

DEPARTURES

04:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:15 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:45 London (BA)
07:50 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
09:00 Rome (RJ)
10:30 Athens (RJ)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:50 New York, Vienna (RJ)
13:30 Kuwait (KU)
16:20 Jeddah (SV)
18:30 Baghdad (RJ)
18:45 Beirut (RJ)
19:00 Kuwait (RJ)

19:05 Kuwait (SR)

19:15 Dhahran (RJ)
19:30 Jeddah (RJ)
19:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:00 Cairo (EA)
20:15 Baghdad (RJ)
20:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:30 Bangkok (RJ)
01:25 Cairo (EA)
02:20 Cairo (EA)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls
Belgian franc 75.6/ 76.1
Dutch guilder 134.9/ 135.7
Egyptian guinea 324/ 328.7
French franc 52.5/ 52.8
Iraqi dinar 575/ 590
Italian lire (for 100) 25.8/ 26
Japanese yen (for 100) 152.9/ 152.9
Kuwaiti dinar 1204.6/ 1211.8
Lebanese lira 92.6/ 93.3
Omani rial 1002/ 1007
Qatari riyal 95.4/ 96.1
Saudi riyal 100.9/ 101.5
Swedish crown 48.2/ 48.5
Swiss franc 179.6/ 180.7
Syrian lire 62/ 62.5
U.A.E. dirham 94.6/ 95.2
U.K. sterling pound 556.6/ 559.9
U.S. dollar 348/ 350
W. German mark 140/ 140.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

It will be cold and cloudy, with chances
of scattered showers. Winds will be
southeasterly moderate. In Agaba, it
will be partly cloudy with scattered
showers. Winds will be northerly mod-
erate and seas calm.

Low high temperature in deg.C

Amman 7
Agaba 9.8
Deserts 1
Jordan Valley 7.4
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 7, Agaba 17. Humidity read-
ings: Amman 74 per cent. Agaba 39 per
cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 23090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Sheikhan 664171-4
Sheikhan Hospital 669151-5
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muasher 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marks 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN
Dr. Issam Hawamdeh 33029/662295

MARKET PRICES

Upper-lower price in Jls per kg.
Apple (African) 220/ 180
Apple (American) 500/ 450
Apple (Double Red) 260/ 200
Apple (Golden) 260/ 200
Apple (Turkish) 260/ 200
Apple (French) 270/ 220
Apple (Starken) 260/ 200
Banana 260/ 200
Banana (Mukammal) 225/ 180
Beans 210/ 180
Beet 240/ 180
Cabbage 100/ 80
Carrot 200/ 160
Cauliflower (white) 200/ 160
Chestnut 600/ 500
Coconut 250/ 260
Cucumber (large) 450/ 350
Cucumber (small) 580/ 520
Eggplant (large) 180/ 150
Garlic 500/ 400
Grapes (white) 400/ 300
Grapefruit 90/ 70
Guava 250/ 200
Lemon (local) 160/ 120
Marrow (large) 180/ 160
Marrow (small) 260/ 230
Olives 300/ 250
Onion (dry) 110/ 90
Onion (green) 200/ 160
Oranges 260/ 210
Oranges (Mandarin) 200/ 170
Oranges (shamouti) 180/ 150
Oranges (local) 120/ 90
Pepper (Sweet) 400/ 360
Pepper (Hot Green) 560/ 480
Potatoes 130/ 100
Radish 70/ 50
Spinach 100/ 80
Tomato 180/ 140
Turnips 250/ 200
Turnip 130/ 100

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WORLD

Turkey frees union leader

ANKARA (R) — An Istanbul military court has freed trade unionist Saban Aydin, the first of 52 members of the left-wing Confederation of Labour (DISK) accused of subversion to be released since their trial began over a year ago.

Mr. Aydin and the other DISK members were accused of aiming to establish Communist order in Turkey and he faced the death penalty.

At Friday's hearing Mr. Aydin told the military judge he had resigned from the "honorary board" of the confederation before the Sept. 1980 military coup, and he said he believed in the nationalist ideas of Kemal Ataturk, the first president of Turkey in the 1920s.

DISK members awaiting trial have said through lawyers that they have been tortured in prison.

Rebel colonel causes crisis in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — President Alvaro Magana met El Salvador's military chiefs Friday night to discuss how to defuse the rebellion of a key army commander demanding the defence minister's resignation.

A military spokesman said Saturday the president also called the meeting to prove the rebellious officer, Col. Sigifredo Ochoa Perez, angry at being relieved of his post, only had the support of his own men in northern Cabanas province.

All battalion commanders except Col. Ochoa conferred behind closed doors with the president and Defence Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia, plus the navy, air force and national police chiefs, the spokesman said. He

gave no details of their talks.

Col. Ochoa Perez, 42, one of the toughest anti-guerrilla commanders, Friday staged the first open act of military rebellion in El Salvador's three-year civil war.

He told reporters he would no longer obey the defence minister and that his troops controlled all Cabanas province, which stretches from the centre of the country to the Honduran border.

He commands 3,500 men out of the 24,000-strong army. He first communicated his defiance in telephone calls to Western journalists, saying he was protesting at Gen. Garcia's order posting him as military attaché in Uruguay.

Col. Ochoa Perez has led his men into some of the fiercest fighting

of the civil war. He described his posting as one of the many arbitrary assignments made by Gen. Garcia on political, not military grounds.

He said he had tacit support from other battalions but denied that his rebellion was paving the way for the overthrow of the U.S.-backed government. "This is not a political movement or coup d'etat," he said.

Military sources said U.S. ambassador Deane Hinton had an urgent meeting with the defence minister on the situation.

Col. Ochoa Perez told Reuters by telephone that he reached no agreement with a delegation of senior military officers sent to reason with him Friday.

Court to see if Carstens was right

BONN (R) — West Germany's highest court will meet on Tuesday to consider whether President Karl Carstens acted legally when he dissolved parliament Friday to pave the way for general elections.

Mr. Carstens, himself a doctor of law, admitted in a television address Friday night that he had serious misgivings about the action.

But he had decided to meet the wishes of the four parties in parliament that the Bundestag (lower house) be dissolved and new elections held on March 6.

An official spokesman said the constitutional court would begin deliberations next Tuesday on a request by a private lawyer, Oskar Redelberger, for the president's decision to be set aside on the grounds that it violated the constitution.

Karl Hofmann, an independent Member of Parliament, said he also would complain to the court and other parliamentarians were thought to be considering similar moves.

The complaints arise from the manner in which Chancellor Helmut Kohl set the process in motion — by intentionally losing a vote of no-confidence though his government enjoyed a clear majority in the house.

Idi Amin's account frozen

KAMPALA (R) — The Kampala bank accounts of ousted dictator Idi Amin and hundreds of his supporters have been frozen on the orders of Uganda's president and finance minister, Milton Obote.

The latest government gazette said more than 1,000 accounts of individuals, shops and companies had been frozen, including Amin's account with the Libyan Arab Uganda Bank, frozen on Dec. 16, and those of some former ministers under Amin.

The gazette, which appeared Saturday, did not say why the accounts had been frozen or what sums were involved. Banks mentioned included the government-owned Uganda Commercial Bank, Grindlays, Barclays and Standard Bank.

Amin fled Kampala in April, 1979, as a combined force of Ugandan exiles and Tanzanian troops marched on the capital.

Four months ago, the Libyan Arab Uganda Bank was closed pending investigation amid Ugandan government allegations that Libya, a staunch supporter of Amin, was arming, training and financing guerrillas fighting the Obote government.

Riots follow in wake of S. Indian election

NEW DELHI (R) — A film star Indira Gandhi was routed both there and in the neighbouring state of Karnataka.

Mr. Rama Rao, who is expected to be sworn-in Sunday to his first political office, has said he would like a public ceremony so that his supporters could be present.

Analysts said Mrs. Gandhi might draw a lesson from the declining fortunes of her party by loosening central control and allowing a grassroots leadership to develop.

In a rare front-page editorial, the Times of India said the drift in the party had exposed the organisation's true nature as "a rabble bound by no code or loyalty, a collection of individuals out to feather their own nests..."

Korean-Canadian charged with bomb scare on 747

TOKYO (R) — Police charged a 31-year-old Canadian in connection with a bomb scare aboard a Korean Airlines (KAL) Jumbo jet Saturday after the plane, carrying more than 200 people, made an emergency landing in Tokyo.

Police said Kwok Wing Ming, born in Hong Kong but now a Canadian citizen, had been charged under Japan's anti-hijack laws with obstructing the flight of the Boeing 747.

They said Kwok had sent a letter to the KAL Toronto office saying he had planted a bomb aboard the flight he was taking, KAL 007 from New York to Seoul via Anchorage.

Mistaken identity

Earlier, police said a Chinese-American was involved in the incident. A man sitting beside Kwok in the aircraft was also detained for questioning but later released.

More than 2,000 riot police and dozens of fire engines surrounded the airliner when it made a dawn landing at Tokyo's Narita airport and the 236 passengers and crew scrambled to safety.

Police bomb experts searched the plane but found no explosives. It later left for Seoul.

Peking launches drive to popularise birth control

PEKING (R) — Peking's Communist Party chief, Duan Junyi, visited a contraceptive shop in the city centre to popularise China's birth control campaign, the New China News Agency said.

He was one of 300,000 people who turned out in the capital to do what the government calls propaganda work among the masses aimed at keeping the world's most populous nation from exceeding a target of 1.2 billion people by the year 2000.

China had over 1,008 million people at the end of July, but the number is growing by over 14 million a year.

Couples can now face a hefty fine unless they have prior approval for a second baby, and those who sign a one-is-enough pledge get financial rewards.

8 South Africans die in Namibia

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KUWAIT (R) — Canada's Minister of State for International Trade, Gerald Regan, arrived Saturday for talks with Kuwaiti officials on the second leg of a five-nation Gulf tour. A Canadian embassy spokesman said Mr. Regan would meet Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, Finance Minister Abdul-Latif Al-Hamad and Commerce and Industry Minister Jassim Al-Marzouk.

CIA compares U.S., Soviet diets

WASHINGTON (R) — American and Soviet citizens eat about the same amount of food each day, but the lower-calorie Russian diet with more emphasis on grain might be more nutritious. According to a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) report, both nationalities might be eating too much for good health. The CIA drew no conclusions about the nutritional makeup of the Soviet and American diets, but commonly accepted U.S. health views suggest the Soviet diet could be slightly better. According to the CIA, an average Soviet citizen consumes 3,280 calories a day, compared with 3,520 calories in the U.S. Americans eat more meat, fish, sugar, dairy foods, eggs, fats and oils and less grain than the average Soviet citizen, it said.

West German jailed in Poland for spying

WARSAW (R) — A Polish military court sentenced a West German businessman to four years in jail on charges of spying for Western intelligence services. The official PAP news agency said the indictment had accused Lech Jan Szamotulski of working for "the intelligence services of the United States and other NATO countries to the detriment of the interests of the Polish People's Republic." The agency said this involved relaying vital socio-economic information about Poland and Polish citizens including those employed in West Germany. PAP added that the sentence, which is considered lenient in an espionage case, took into account the willingness of the accused to shed light on his intelligence activities.

Soviets surprised to hear about cardinal

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet officials said that Moscow had not been informed in advance of the nomination of the Soviet Union's first cardinal, Latvian Catholic leader Jurgis Vairis. Pope John Paul II included 87-year-old Monsignor Vairis among 18 prelates named as cardinals on Wednesday. They are due to be ordained at a Vatican ceremony on Feb. 2. A spokesman for the council for religious affairs, a government body which oversees all church affairs, told Reuters "This was something of a surprise for the Soviet Union."

TASS confirms U.S. report on Cosmos 1402

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet announcement that one of its nuclear-powered satellites broke up last month effectively confirmed U.S. reports that the craft had run into trouble. Western diplomats said Saturday.

But they said there was still a major difference of opinion between Washington and Moscow over whether the satellite's power unit would pose any danger when it re-entered the earth's atmosphere.

The Soviet news agency TASS released a brief report Friday saying Cosmos 1402, described by U.S. officials as a spy satellite, had been fragmented under instructions from earth on Dec. 28.

Two versions of the same report left confusion about whether the

nuclear reactor had already entered the atmosphere and burnt up. But diplomats said they considered the first report, suggesting this was the case, had been inaccurately formulated.

U.S. government officials have said the part of the satellite containing the reactor is in a wild orbit after going out of control and should crash on earth at the end of January.

Diplomats familiar with Soviet space technology said the brief TASS announcement indirectly confirmed the U.S. reports by stating that the reactor would be destroyed by re-entry.

"This is never the way they deal with exhausted Sputniks. The standard practice is to fire the

power unit into a higher orbit," one said.

"By saying the reactor is going to come down to earth they have conceded that something went badly wrong," he added.

The U.S. government has said the satellite could spread radioactive debris over a large area after it burns up on re-entry and has put a special search team on alert in case it lands in the United States.

Western scientists have calculated that the crippled satellite is at present orbiting about 240 kilometres above the earth and falling about five kilometres a day — a rate that will gradually speed up.

According to U.S. intelligence sources, Soviet ground control

tried for a week after Dec. 28 to fire the rockets on Cosmos 1402 but had no success.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the Soviet Union had severely damaged its credibility on the satellite issue by issuing contradictory and ambiguous statements.

A day before the TASS announcement that the craft had broken up a Soviet space official told a press conference that Cosmos 1402 was still operating normally and was quite safe.

"The Russians look very silly trying to pretend there's nothing wrong when the Americans are pouring out details about the exact orbit and behaviour of the satellite," one diplomat commented.

Trudeau says East bloc offer 'worth considering'

SINGAPORE (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said Saturday Soviet bloc proposals for a non-aggression pact with NATO were worth considering, but he described them as a clever move and urged caution in any negotiations on the subject with Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

He told a news conference the Canadian position on the proposals, contained in a Warsaw Pact document issued after a summit in Prague earlier this week, was cautiously guarded. But he added Mr. Andropov had "hit upon some tactically sound avenues."

Mr. Trudeau, who is here as part of a tour of South East Asia and Japan, said: "I think the most we can say is that these proposals are worthy of consideration and they should be brought to the negotiating table."

He added, however, that he would be wary of Mr. Andropov if he was a negotiator. "I think that it was a very clever move."

Western governments have promised to study the proposals. British Foreign Secretary Fran-

cis Pym described the offer in a radio interview in London as being of "great significance" and "a very important moment in international affairs."

President Reagan told a news conference in Washington on Thursday night the idea was worth considering and something requiring consultation among all NATO members.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, speaking in Stuttgart, promised careful study of the document by Bonn.

Mr. Trudeau, turning to the subject of Kampuchea, said the non-Communist, five-nation association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was wise and "playing the only game they can" in lobbying support for the democratic Kampuchea resistance coalition opposed to the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh.

But he added he did not think that arms supplies to the coalition would achieve a settlement. The key to a solution lay with Peking and Moscow, he said.

Vogel to discuss arms control with Soviets

WASHINGTON (R) — West German opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel, who says he has received assurances from President Reagan that Washington takes arms control seriously, now prepares for talks on the subject in Moscow next week.

Mr. Vogel is the Social Democratic Party (SPD) candidate for the chancellorship in West Germany's general election which, it was announced in Bonn Friday, will be held on March 6.

The Bonn announcement has given his two-day visit to Washington, amid throngs of German reporters, the air of a political campaign.

Emerging from a White House meeting with Mr. Reagan Friday, Mr. Vogel told reporters he wel-

comed West German President Karl Carstens' decision to hold the election.

Opinion polls show him trailing Mr. Kohl, but the SPD candidate's visit to Washington and his scheduled trip to Moscow next week are seen as a bid to enhance his political stature before the election.

An issue during Mr. Vogel's talks with Mr. Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and other officials was whether the SPD is backing away from the nuclear weapons policy of its former leader, ex-Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The SPD leader has told reporters his policy is fully consistent with Mr. Schmidt.

Andropov in trouble over Afghanistan in his own backyard

By Mark Wood
Reuters

MOSCOW — Soviet leader Yuri Andropov may have suffered a significant setback in his efforts to consolidate his power in the Kremlin after initiating new moves over Afghanistan, some Western diplomats in Moscow believe.

Two recent official statements reiterating a hardline stand on conditions for a withdrawal of Soviet troops contrasted sharply with signs of flexibility on the issue from Mr. Andropov himself when he took power in November.

The diplomats, some of them veteran Kremlin-watchers, said this suggested Mr. Andropov had faced strong opposition within the Communist leadership and been forced to back down.

There was also other evidence that the 68-year-old party chief was having difficulty establishing his full authority in the Kremlin, they said.

This included his failure to take over the state presidency, the second post occupied by his predecessor, Leonid Brezhnev, and the fact that he had not made a major policy speech at celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the USSR last month.

"It is probably still too early to draw definite conclusions but Andropov is clearly not getting all his own way," one diplomat said. "Either he is still facing resistance from those who opposed his nomination as leader, or he has already made new enemies since he took over," he added.

Just three days after he assumed office on Nov. 12, Mr. Andropov launched into a series of talks on the Afghanistan issue with the Pakistani, Indian and Afghan leaders who were in Moscow for Mr. Brezhnev's funeral.

Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq reported later that there had been signs of "freshness" in the Soviet attitude on the issue.



Afghan guerrillas with downed Soviet plane: The decision to carry on the war may not be Andropov's own.

Pakistan had long been vilified in the Soviet press and the fact that Mr. Andropov saw President Zia at all was significant. The official media underlined this by giving him great prominence in coverage of the visiting leaders.

Afghan leader Babrak Karmal, on the other hand, was shown only briefly and his talks in the Soviet capital were given relatively little space in the daily press.

A month later the signs of movement and change had evaporated.

Sudden tough line

The party daily Pravda issued a hard-hitting policy statement that Moscow's support for the Kabul government was irreversible and

that the conditions for a pullout of more than 100,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan remained unchanged.

Mr. Karmal was given celebrity treatment when he flew to Moscow for the 60th anniversary celebrations and was presented to the foreign press corps so he could declare he still had full Kremlin support.

Last weekend the official news agency TASS issued a second official statement on Afghanistan, again stressing there was no alteration in Moscow's standpoint.

The diplomats contend that there has been a clear turnaround since Mr. Andropov's talks in November and that it appears to amount to a personal defeat for the party chief.

But they also caution that it is still risky to read a lot into recent developments, partly because Mr. Andropov has never made any public statements on Afghanistan, and also because of the secrecy and mystery which surrounds the Kremlin leadership.

A common theory is that Mr. Andropov moved fast to initiate steps towards an Afghan settlement in the hope that he could outmanoeuvre his Kremlin opponents before they had time to object. This theory suggests he then lost the gamble.

Some diplomats say he may have been called to a halt by the military, which is believed to have helped Mr. Andropov to power, but is also said to favour staying put in Afghanistan.

NEWS IN BRIEF

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ Q104
♦ AK74
♦ AK63
♦ K5

WEST EAST
♦ 985 ♦ 76
♦ Q9653 ♦ J1082
♦ Q982 ♦ J105
♦ 7 ♦ J632

SOUTH
♦ AKJ32
♦ Void
♦ 74
♦ AQ10984

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♥ Pass
7 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Nine of ♣.

It does our hearts good when we hear of octogenarians performing feats at the bridge table. This hand, from a tournament in Cannes, was reported by Jose le Dentu and features Ado Eichel, still young in mind at age 82. He and his partner were using an artificial club system. In effect, South's jump to three clubs showed a strong two club bid and thereafter the auction was natural. North-South did well to stay clear of the more normal spade grand slam, which would have offered no practice at all.

West led the top of nothing in spades, and declarer won the jack. The contract looked simple until West showed out on the second round of trumps. To make his contract now, declarer needed a trump coup. For that to succeed, however, East had to follow to three rounds of spades. But what if East held only two spades?

Eichel devised as pretty a bit of deception as it has been our pleasure to witness. He entered dummy with the ten of spades and cashed the ace-king of hearts, discarding the ace-king of spades from his hand! Now he led a third round of spades.

East was afraid that if he ruffed the third spade, declarer would overruff and his trump trick would vanish. He thought that he could simply discard on this trick and then sit back and wait for his trump trick. Declarer proved him wrong.

After the queen of spades held, declarer ruffed a heart, crossed to the ace of diamonds and ruffed another heart. Now his trumps were down to the same length as East's, and both of them still held a diamond. Declarer re-entered dummy with the remaining high diamond, and led a diamond from the table. No matter what East did, his trump trick disappeared and the grand slam rolled home.

We warned you not to trust these 82-year-olds!

مكتبة العدل